

NID-Bits

A COMMUNICATION
FOR WOMEN OF THE
NORTHERN ILLINOIS
DISTRICT OF
LUTHERAN
WOMEN IN MISSION

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September 23-24

**District
Convention**

Carol Stream

Two Promises

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Information**

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Here Am I! Send Me.

by LWML NID President Janice Gerzevske

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" (Isaiah 6:8a) asked the voice of the Lord. Isaiah replied that he would go. His job was to tell the people of Israel all the sins they had done and the result of their forsaking the Lord.

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we have an easier task—we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. There

are many ways we can serve others. It could mean planning to host a zone meeting or becoming a local, zone, or district officer or serving on a district committee. Our prayer for the 2022-2024 biennium needs to be that we, as Women in Mission, will be equipped to serve our Lord when asked.

In October several of our ladies and our new pastoral counselor will be going to St Louis for the Assembly of Leaders (AOL) event which is held every four years. One of the commitments made is to share the knowledge from AOL with the women of the district. Four years ago we were planning to hold a meeting in each of the regions of the district to share the information but then the pandemic occurred.

Ladies who have been asked to serve in an elected position by members of the nominating committee expressed a lack of knowledge to serve. The objective of AOL and the VP of Organizational Resources is to provide information needed to serve locally, in your zone, or at the district level. What will your answer be when the ladies who attend AOL ask you to join as they share their knowledge with the officers at the local and zone level? Will you say, "Here am I, I will attend?"

Two Promises



Rev. Jeffrey P. Howell
Pastor
St. Paul Lutheran Church
—Grand Crossing
Chicago, IL

John 16:33 — *"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."* (ESV)

In this passage, our Lord makes two promises to His disciples. His first promise is, *"In the world you will have tribulations."* "You will." Jesus did not say, "You might, you could, or maybe you will." He did not say, "they go away if you follow me." He says, "You will have." No could, no might, or maybe, but **"will."** And we will have what? **Tribulations.** This is not a very comforting promise! But during these tribulations, we are confident that God has not abandoned us. It means that our tribulations have not caught Him unaware, or that it has escaped His attention. It is in the experience of this promise that we are driven toward the second one.

Jesus says, *"But take heart; I have overcome the world."* It would be arrogant if someone other than our Savior was making this statement. He says, *"I have."* Jesus says this before Easter, not after. Even before Jesus rose from the dead, He had already overcome the world. The cross was not failure, but triumph. It was not the end, but the beginning. His resurrection proves His reign over the world that opposes Him. It stamps His victory against the world that hates Him and us, that cannot

give the peace He gives, that rejoiced over the disciples' sorrow and pain. But the ruler of this world is judged and defeated. By faith, we are chosen out of this world.

Our Lord has overcome the world. What does that mean for us? What does that mean for our tribulations? It means that His victory over our tribulations has already been completed, even before we finish enduring them, not just after! We can face them with faith and courage for His resurrection is the confirmation of this victory and promise. He is with us. We can truly take heart because He has truly overcome the world. That is comforting!

It has been an honor to serve as Pastoral Counselor. I have been inspired and benefited from my time with this group. My prayer is that the Holy Spirit keep you strong and endure all that will come your way. May our Lord be with you as you serve His kingdom! Amen!

LWML Teens Corner

By Hannah Schauer, LWML NID VP of Special Focus Ministries



Lwml YOUTH in mission

But YOU are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

Our Objectives are to:

- Suggest ideas as to how to make YOUTH feel as though they are valued members of the body of Christ and the LWML
- Connect YOUTH with the big picture of LWML and its mission.
- Equip mentors with resources to engage youth in opportunities for spiritual growth, mission, and service.
- Provide ideas for YOUTH in Mission activities that encompass multiple generations.

Serve and Share

Believe it or not, the beginning of the school year is here! Gather up some LWML ladies and put together bookmarks or keychains with our NID Convention theme verse, John 16:33 to give to Youth to remind them to TAKE HEART as they embark on a new school year.



Pray

Say this prayer, but insert a new teen's name each time you pray it leading up to the school year.

Dear Jesus,
Be with _____ as she embarks on another school year. Help her keep you at the center of all that she does and help to lean on you in all things. And may she shine brightly for You. AMEN.

Have a fun story or pictures to share after completing these challenges?
Email them to DCE Hannah Schauer at vpsfm@lwmlnid.org

Celebrate the Lord of the Nations Next June

By Anne Hartman, Chairman of the Host Committee for the Milwaukee Convention

Now is the time to sign up to be a volunteer at the National Convention in Milwaukee! All volunteers who serve eight hours at the convention will receive a discounted registration rate of \$50 if you register in January. Look for more information about registration in the winter issue of *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.

Please share the Call for Workers form with your family, friends, and congregation members. Forms can be found here: <https://www.lwml-swd.org/events/other>

The form can be completed in two ways. [Call for Workers link - Volunteer Application Form](#) — this form is filled out online and submitted to our Personnel Data Management Chairman. [Call for Workers download format - Volunteer Application Form](#) — this form can be filled in and mailed to the address on the form.



LWML NID Convention 2022

By Marilyn Hess, Convention Co-Chair

The 76th LWML NID District Convention (September 23-24, 2022) is fast approaching. The registration form—packed with all the details you need—is included on page 11 and is also available for online registration at www.lwmlnid.org. The registration deadline is September 1, and it is required for both Friday and Saturday events; however, there is no charge for Friday events. If you wish to spend a night or two at the hotel, use the code: LWM to take advantage of the substantial discount. Visit www.holidayinn.com/chi-carol or call 630-665-3000 (address: 150 S. Gary Ave., Carol Stream, IL 60188)



The Convention Committee is working with the Carol Stream and Wheaton Chambers of Commerce to suggest activities and places to eat in the local area. See “Destination: District Convention” on page 12 and expanded suggestions on www.lwmlnid.org.

Convention Highlights

Gifts from the Heart (Friday or Saturday): Please bring shelf-stable food (not frozen or requiring refrigeration) for Family in Faith Lutheran Church Food Pantry in Glendale Heights. Bring items on Friday or Saturday. Additionally, stamps, glasses, and eyeglass cases, etc. are always welcome.

The LWML Store will be open for shopping on both Friday afternoon and Saturday.

Servant Event (Friday 1-3 p.m.): Messages for Missionaries will include activities to promote participants to share fellowship while preparing encouraging messages for our LCMS Missionaries. Thanks to Marilyn Eaves and her committee for planning the event.

Bible Study (Friday 3-4 and Saturday during Convention): Deb Burma, noted author and speaker, will lead Bible Study. Some of her bestsellers include: *JOY: A Study of Philippians* and *Living a Chocolate Life*. Some of her books will be available for purchase. Visit www.debburma.com.

Worship Service (Friday 7-8:30 p.m.): Following dinner on your own, the worship service will feature NID President Rev. Dr. Allan Buss as proclaimer and Lana Gibbons providing music. There will be no formal reception following the service, but individuals are encouraged to meet in small groups for fellowship.

Registration and Exhibits will open on Saturday at 8 a.m.

President Debbie Larson will travel to NID and share news from National LWML.

Historical Interrupter, Kris Blackwell, will share some interesting facts and stories from the 85 years of LWML NID Archives.

LWML favorite Lana Gibbons will provide music on Friday and Saturday. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn the new convention theme song composed by Lana.

There will be opportunity for in-person fellowship, singing, visiting vendors' displays, hearing mission speakers, voting for officers, and choosing District Mission Grants. We hope to see you there!



Deb Burma
Author and Speaker

Young Women, Join in the Convention Fun!



By Sherrie Smith, Young Women's Coordinator

Would you like to get to know some other young women who love Jesus and sharing His love with others? Serving as a Young Woman Representative to the September 23 and 24 LWML NID convention is just the thing for you! The young women will usher at the opening worship service and help with the ingathering. There will be a Pizza Party after the worship service. On Saturday the Young Women will sit together and play Bingo using LWML words and mite coins. LWML President Debbie Larson is excited to spend time with the young women. What a wonderful opportunity to be in the Word, worship together, and hear about what our mites accomplish. If you know a young woman who would love this, encourage her to go. This is an opportunity the young women will not want to miss.



2020-2022 NID Mission Grants Summary

Thank you for your mites! Thanks to your generous support, we were able to fund every request made by our grant recipients. New grant recipients will be selected at the district convention.

Worship Anew Ministry to the Aging and Unchurched **\$17,600**

Worship Anew, formerly known as Worship for Shut-Ins, celebrates the new life all people have in Jesus with a 30-minute televised broadcast service.

Jacmel Lutheran Home and Center of Refuge Orphanage (Haiti) **\$15,000**

The mission grant will help provide food and medicine for the Center of Refuge Orphans and the Jacmel Lutheran Home for the Elderly as well other operating expenses.

Dr. William H. Griffin Community Center Food Pantry **\$15,159.88**

By providing food and care for the community around them, the Dr. William H. Griffin Community Center, a ministry of Zion Lutheran Church, serves their community with love, joy, and compassion.

Phil's Friends **\$10,000**

Phil's Friends's mission is to provide Christ-centered support and hope to those affected by cancer, including by sending care packages which include practical, comforting, and spiritual items (Bibles).

Dorcas Project **\$17,000**

The project aims to educate women leaders to understand the teachings and confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana and start a small business or expand their current business.

Lutheran Books for Buddhist Southeast Asia **\$15,000**

The Lutheran Heritage Foundation will translate and publish several thousand books like Luther's *Small Catechism* and *Bible Stories in Pictures* in the languages of the people.

Salam Christian Fellowship **\$ 1,150**

The ongoing mission of Salam Christian Fellowship, based at Peace Lutheran Church, Lombard, is to spread the Gospel among Middle Eastern and North African Muslims by bringing people together from different tribal and cultural backgrounds.

Here Am I; Send Me

By Gayle Thanepohn, LWML NID Nominating Committee Chair

This verse from Isaiah 6:8b may be what you need to pray on. We are still seeking candidates for our 2022 LWML NID elections that will take place at the convention in September. God may be calling you to step into one of these leadership roles in our district. Perhaps now is the time to act on what you may have said to others, “I really want to be more involved in LWML.” This is the best way to get to know our LWML sisters beyond your own church’s group.

These offices need new leadership. Listed are the number of candidates who have agreed to have their names placed on the ballot. We are praying for more than one candidate for each office:

- **President** (4 year term) *1 candidate*
- **Pastoral Counselor** (4 year term) *1 candidate*
- **Vice President of Gospel Outreach** (4 year term) *1 candidate*
- **Vice President of Organizational Resources** (4 year term) *1 candidate*
- **Corresponding Secretary** (4 year term) *NO candidates*
- **Treasurer** (4 year term) *1 candidate*
- **Nominating Committee (North)** (2 year term) *NO candidates*
- **Nominating Committee (South)** (2 year term) *NO candidates*
- **Nominating Committee (East)** (2 year term) *NO candidates*
- **Nominating Committee (West)** (2 year term) *1 candidate*

Terms are limited by our By-Laws. Consecutive terms in a single office are not permitted.

Take a moment to watch the inspiring video created by Jane Webster, Nominating Committee North, and her granddaughter, Jessica. You will hear the stories of three LWML NID presidents as they share their experiences. ([Click here to watch on YouTube.](#)) It doesn’t have to be for the office of president; the encouraging words will apply to any leadership position! You may know someone that would be an excellent candidate for any of these offices.

Go to: www.LWMLNID.org and select “LWML NID Nominating Form” in the menu to fill out the form for a nomination to make a change, get involved, and experience a life-changing position with LWML NID.

For more information, contact Gayle Thanepohn, nominatingcommchair@LWMLNID.org, or anyone else on the Nominating Committee:

Judy Poellet (East)

Gayle Thanepohn (Chair—West)

Jane Webster (North)

NID-Bits Book Club — *A Fool and His Monet*

By Miss Paige Turner

This commentary contains Spoilers for the featured book.

A Fool and His Monet by Sandra Orchard
(Revell, 2016)



I had fun following the clues with Serena as she sought the art thief! Did you solve the mystery before Serena? I didn't. I had a suspect in mind about one third of the way into the book, but I was incorrect! Oh, well.

Serena's (sometimes eccentric) band of friends and family are fantastic. I loved that despite Serena being the professional FBI agent, she got help solving her case from some unexpected sources. (Thank you, Aunt Martha!) She also had plenty of protectors along the way. I laughed aloud when an unrequested guardian misidentified friend as foe for the second time. Poor Jax (and Nate).

Serena herself is an interesting character. She has the skills needed to do her job, but harbors some doubts about her own readiness. Yes, she's new to the Art Crime Team, but she caught her thief, which she told us is unusual in art thefts. I thought her claustrophobia would play a bigger role in the story, but maybe that will come up in a later book. (If you do want to read more about Serena Jones, book two is called *Another Day, Another Dali*.)

I'm glad that her mother warmed to Serena's profession. Even in a novel meant purely for entertainment, we can be reminded of fundamental principles. Most parents have an idea of how they'd like their children's lives to go. Sometimes those plans align with actuality, but many times they don't. When they don't align, parents should recognize that their children have been called to a vocation, as June Jones does. June didn't say it in so many words, but we know that she has accepted Serena's calling, complete with its dangers and lack of grandchildren thus far (though June is definitely still rooting for grandchildren).

The villain's motive was interesting. I don't know that I've ever read a story where the antagonist's goal is to prove a point. Now, I know that proving said point was supposed to result in the fulfillment of a more standard desire, but it's still an interesting motivator. (Yes, I am being very vague. I don't want to utterly spoil the ending. This is a mystery after all!)

Thank you for joining the NID-Bits Book Club! I hope that you (and your book buddies) enjoyed *A Fool and His Monet* and will continue to follow along on our bookish adventures. You can find a PDF of [discussion prompts](#) for your group on the NID-Bits page of the LWML NID website.

Our next book will be...

Seven Women by Eric Metaxas (Nelson Books, 2015)

This collection of brief biographies highlights how seven women followed God's calling, each achieving great things for the kingdom. Their stories span centuries and continents, but at the heart of each is an understanding that traditional femininity is not incompatible with success.

Will you read with us?

80-for-80 Events

In thanksgiving for 80 years of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, each member, group, zone, or district is encouraged to reflect God's love by blessing others with 80 of something, remembering events from the last 80 years, or sharing legacy concepts for carrying forth the LWML mission.



Share your group's event in NID-Bits. Send a write-up to publicationseditor@lwmlnid.org.

Immanuel, Mokena (submitted by Barb B.)

A Spring Tea to Remember

The Immanuel, Mokena, ladies outdid themselves. Their goal was to collect and fill 80 purses with toiletries for the Crisis Center of South Suburbia. Hold onto your hats—as they actually collected over 150 purses and filled to the brim a total of 101 purses!

On a beautiful spring Sunday afternoon, 42 women attended the Tea. Pretty pink tablecloths with flowered teapot centerpieces greeted them as they entered the narthex. They were then ushered into the sanctuary to hear a presentation from Lorri Nagle, Director of Development at the Crisis Center. Lorri educated the guests with facts and data about domestic violence and shared the many programs offered by the Center.



After the presentation, a luncheon of tiny sandwiches was prepared, along with a fruit cup, cookies and of course, TEA! Each woman brought their own teacup to brew their own favorite blend of tea!

Next came the fun part of the afternoon—the women filled their donated purses with at least 25 different kinds of toiletries—the purses were bulging. Altogether, 58 purses were filled at the Spring Tea. Added to that amount were 43 purses filled by God's Kids Club, for a total of 101 purses. The unfilled leftover purses were donated to Neat Repeats, a resale shop supporting the Crisis Center.

The event was a smashing tribute to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League!



Cross Lutheran, Yorkville (submitted by Jeanne L.)

Several months ago, our LWML meeting welcomed a member from a neighboring community that informed us about the Days for Girls ministry. I had learned of this mission at a District Convention, so was anxious to get “the rest of the story.” Living in a community where we can find most anything we want on a store shelf or with a click through Amazon, it is hard to comprehend that girls lack the most basic supplies when it comes to feminine hygiene. As the need was presented, our group began to buzz with enthusiasm. Our “Mama Bear” instinct was released big time as we envisioned how these girls were shunned and shamed for a week each month.

We set a time to meet with Margaret Studer, who leads this ministry in her church. She is an amazing and patient teacher! We were invited to her home to sew multiple times so she could walk us through each step of the process. She armed us with binders of step-by-step instructions and the assurance that we could ask her anything!

With this being LWML’s 80th year, we set our goal to make 80 kits. Watching the reality of that goal unfold was, at times, overwhelming and discouraging. The devil worked hard to instill doubt and obstacles before us, but armed with prayer and love for the recipients, we forged on.

Two mass sewing days were scheduled to take place in our church fellowship hall. We are blessed to have two teachers on our committee that know how to organize! As the sewers and non-sewers arrived for their chosen “shift,” the room began to whirl with excited energy. The doubt that we would not be able to produce high-quality kits was quickly replaced with loving stitches that completed task after task. Teenage girls joined in to help with the ironing, measuring, stringing the bags with ribbons, and helping wherever they could. It was delightful to have their chatter and enthusiasm fueling the efforts.

By the end of the second sewing day, the kits were not completed, but we look forward with joyful anticipation to another stitching get-together to finish our kits and send them off—packed with love and prayers. It is evident that God had a perfect plan for this project. Aside from the recipients who will be blessed with the kits, new friendships were formed as the irons steamed and the machines hummed. Seam rippers armed us with humility and laughter. When we truly devote ourselves to “Serve the Lord with gladness,” He will provide the way far beyond anything we can imagine!

Share Your LWML Stories!



By Kris Blackwell, LWML NID Archivist-Historian and Convention Co-Chair

Many of you are familiar with Jan Struck, the humorous interrupter, at the national conventions. Well, I am not funny, but President Jan has asked me to interrupt the 2022 LWML NID Convention with snippets of history. While I can certainly relate a lot of wonderful tidbits of history going all the way back to 1937 with the Northern Illinois Mission Endeavor Society and the first tin mite box, I would love to also have personal reflections. I know that there are some ladies who have been in LWML as long as I have been alive! If you are not able to write up the story of your fondest memory just call and talk to me, and I will write your story down.

Think about all the retreats, conventions, and Lenten Inspirations we have had! We also did Mission Servant Trips to learn about the missions within the district. Maybe one of you went on an LWML Mission Trip with MOST. These stories make the LWML NID come alive for the generations to come! We might even be able to write them up into a PDF for distribution at the convention along with the Mission Grant History PDF that will be available in September 2022. Please call or email me: Kris Blackwell 630-234-1491 or kbwrk123@gmail.com

NID Mites Address

Please make **checks payable to: LWML NID**.

Address for sending mites and memorials:

LWML NID

PO Box 958012

Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

There will be a **new address** following the district convention in September.

Zone Presidents will be informed of the new address when it's available.

Stamps for Missions Address

Did you know that cancelled postage stamps can earn money to support mites?

Learn more at <https://lwmlnid.org/missions/stamps-for-missions/>

The District office has been sold, so please send or deliver cancelled postage stamps to:

LWML NID

c/o Trinity Lutheran Church

1101 Kimberly Way

Lisle, IL 60532

Calendar

- August 13, 2022 — **Meet Rev. John Donkoh** at Trinity, Lombard (RSVP by Aug. 6) (see p. 13)
- September 1, 2022 — LWML NID District Convention **sign-up deadline**
- September 23-24, 2022 — LWML NID **District Convention** (see pp. 4-5 and 11-12)
- June 22-25, 2023 — LWML **National Convention** in Milwaukee, WI (see p. 3)
- June 26-29, 2025 — LWML **National Convention** in Omaha, NE

Announcements

- Zones can send meeting announcements to be posted on the LWML NID website, Facebook, and Instagram to president@LWMLNID.org for distribution.
- Follow the District on social media for the latest updates! Use the links below, or click the icons on the www.LWMLNID.org website.
 - Facebook: LWMLNID — www.facebook.com/LWMLNID/
 - Instagram: LWMLNID — <https://www.instagram.com/lwmlnid/>
 - Twitter: LWML NID — <https://twitter.com/LWMLNID>
 - YouTube: LWML NID — <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChA9AnqU21h2no7Q7QMiazw>

You can reach the NID-Bits Editor at publicationseditor@lwmlnid.org



September 23 & 24 2022

**Holiday Inn & Suites
150 S Gary Ave Carol Stream 60188**



76th LWML NID Convention

Celebrating 85 Years of Mission Work

Friday Sept 23

1-3 Servant Event Messages for Missionaries

3-4 Bible Study led by Deb Burma

Supper on your own

7-8:30 Worship

Saturday Sept 24

8AM Registration and Exhibits

9-3:30 Convention includes lunch



Keynote Speaker: Deb Burma

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Church _____ City _____ Zone _____

I am registering as (circle all that apply)

Delegate Alternate **Zone President** **Voting EC**

Non-voting EC **LWML Past President** LWML Member

Pastor First Timer Young Woman Representative Guest

I will be attending (circle all that apply) Friday afternoon

Friday evening Saturday

Saturday Lunch Special diet _____ Gluten Free _____ Vegetarian

Registration Fees/Deadlines:

\$99 by July 23 and \$125 July 24-Sept 1

NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 1

CHECK # _____ Amount \$ _____

Book your hotel by 9/2/22! Special rate of **\$109.00** per night plus tax **WHEN** you use the code: **LWM**

Book online at

www.holidayinn.com/chi-carol

Or call: 630-665-3000 and say

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

By using the code, you will help reduce the cost of housing for our guests.

Register online at LWMLNID.org or

Mail form and check payable to LWMLNID

LWML NID Convention Registration

PO Box 958012 Hoffman Estates IL 60169

Questions: Correspondingsecretary@lwmlnid.org

Kris Blackwell 630-234-1491 Convention Co-chair

Destination: LWML NID District Convention

Come Early, Stay Late

September 23-24, 2022

Holiday Inn & Suites
150 S. Gary Ave
Carol Stream, IL 60188

Amenities:
Indoor Pool
Fitness Center

Things to do:

- **Billy Graham Museum** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues.—Sat. Free Parking
500 College Ave., Wheaton, IL 61087 630.752.5960
bg.museum@wheaton.edu or visit www.wheaton.edu
- **Cantigny Park** 7 a.m.—Sunset 630.668.5161
15151 Winfield Road, Wheaton, IL 60189 info@cantigny.org
Admission is free. Parking fee: Weekdays: \$5 Weekends: \$10
See [First Division Museum](#) (10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wed.—Sun., 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tues.)
Explore Gardens with special sculpture exhibit “[Alebrijes](#)”
- **The Morton Arboretum** 9 a.m.—Sunset Daily
4100 IL 53 S, Lisle, IL 60532 www.Mortonarb.org
Call ahead for timed entrance 630.968.0074
- **Carol Stream Fall Festival** **Saturday Evening, September 24**

Places to Eat:

WHEATON	CAROL STREAM
Egglectic Cafe	Manhattans
Burger Social	Red Apple
Ditka's Grill (reservations)	Village Tavern
Gia Mia	Augustinos
Ivy (reservations)	Carol's Garden

*www.wheatonchamber.com and www.carolstreamchamber.com

Meet Rev. John Donkoh

President of the Lutheran Church of Ghana

Saturday, August 13

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church
1165 S. Westmore-Meyers Road
Lombard, IL 60148



The LWML NID selected DORCAS PROJECT—LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR WOMEN IN GHANA (\$17,000) and has paid this grant in full. This project helped educate women in Ghana so that they can share the Gospel with people in their communities and mentor other young women of the church in how to handle their finances.

Rev. Donkoh cannot join us for our convention in September but would love to thank us personally for helping the women of his church body. Please join us to hear all the great things our mite money has accomplished in Ghana and to share what you are doing with the women of your congregation.

A light breakfast will be served so an RSVP by August 6 would be helpful...
Kris Blackwell: 630-234-1491 or kbwrk123@gmail.com